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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,832	11/19/2003	Masaki Matsumoto	024629-00006	3636
4372	7590	10/12/2007	EXAMINER	
ARENT FOX LLP			OBEID, FAHD A	
1050 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.			ART UNIT	
SUITE 400			PAPER NUMBER	
WASHINGTON, DC 20036			4137	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			10/12/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

DCIPDocket@arentfox.com
IPMatters@arentfox.com
Patent_Mail@arentfox.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/715,832	MATSUMOTO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Fahd A. Obeid	4137	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/19/2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05/05/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Status of the Application

1. **Claims 1-4** are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. **Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Aram (2002/0072988).**

4. Regarding Claims 1 and 4: Aram discloses a rehandling system that creates a rehandling plan from the ordered quantity of a specified part and the inventory quantity, and comprising:

- An ordered-quantity-memory means of storing the ordered quantity of a specified part (storing stock demand data; abstract, fig 18).

- A production-plan-creation means of creating a production plan that sets the daily production quantity for said part (production plan to meet the required quantity during a given period; page 7 para 91).
- A scheduled-shipping-quantity-output means of outputting the scheduled shipping quantity of said part (abstract, figs 13, 21).
- An inventory-quantity-memory means of storing the inventory quantity for said part (storing current stock level data; abstract).
- A production-plan-list-creation means of creating a production-plan list for correcting the production plan for said part based on said ordered quantity, said production quantity, said scheduled shipping quantity and said inventory quantity (page 7 para 91).

5. Regarding claim 2: Aram discloses a rehandling planning system of claim 1 further comprising:

- An inventory-amount-memory means of calculating and storing the amount of inventory after shipping (current stock level) said part based on said ordered quantity, said production quantity, said scheduled shipping quantity and said inventory quantity (page 1 para 7, fig 12, page 17 para 184, and claim 1).
- A comparison means of comparing which is larger between said amount of inventory of said part that is stored by said inventory-amount-memory means and said ordered quantity of said part that is stored by said ordered-quantity-memory

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means (the system provides warning when amount of inventory is less than ordered quantity; fig 24, page 2 para 12, page 10 para 117, page 14 para 152).

6. Regarding claim 3: Aram discloses a rehandling planning system of claim 2 wherein it is possible to issue an instruction for instructing additional production of said part when the comparison result by said comparison means determines that said ordered quantity is greater than said inventory quantity (page 6 para 78, page 10 para 117, page 11 and para 124 &130, page).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fahd A. Obeid whose telephone number is 571-270-3324. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:00am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Akm Ullah can be reached on 571-272-2361. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Fahd Obeid
Patent Examiner


AKM ULLAH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER